Application No: 10/820,827
Attorney's Docket No: ALC 3126

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10 and 19 are independent. Claims 8-10, 12, 16 and 17 are amended.

In section 3 on page 2, the Office Action objects to the Abstract due to a typographical error. The Abstract is amended to correct the typographical error noted. For at least this reason, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

In section 4 on pages 2-3, the Office Action objects to claims 8 and 9 for the specified informalities. Claims 8 and 9 are amended as suggested by the Office Action. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objection to claims 8 and 9 be withdrawn.

In section 5 and 6 on page 3, the Office Action includes advisory comments regarding claims 19 and 20. Applicant appreciates these advisory comments and will keep them in mind. Applicant responds in a similarly advisory fashion that Applicant disagrees with the position stated in sections 5 and 6 on page 3 of the Office Action.

In section 8 on pages 3-4, the Office Action rejects claims 2, 3 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for the specified reasons. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, "a list of highlighted objects." This language is not subject to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph. The reference in claim 2, from which claims 3 and 6-8 depend, to "said highlighted objects" is a reference to the same subject matter referred to in the "list of highlighted objects" recited in claim 1.

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For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 2, 3, and 6-8 as allegedly being indefinite be withdrawn.

Section 9 on page 4 of the Office Action appears to be intended as a rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112. Although the treatment of claim 12 in the Office Action is not clear in this regard, nevertheless claim 12 is amended to depend on claim 11. If the Office Action intended to reject claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the foregoing reasons.

In section 11 on page 4, the Office Action rejects claims 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 10, from which claims 11-18 depend, pertains to, "[a] computer-implemented highlighted objects windows system" that includes a couple of "computer-implemented computer program module[s]." It is respectfully submitted that computer-implemented computer program modules for a computer-implemented system constitutes statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101. For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

In section 13 on pages 5-9, the Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by the HP Open View Network Node Manager (hereinafter "NNM"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

All of the subject matter recited in the rejected claims deals with highlighted objects. A highlighted object is an object that is chosen by a user and highlighted so that the object and the object's container objects change color in a graphical user interface. Such an object can be a

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single object, such as a port on a card, or be associated with other objects through a hierarchy such as paths that go through many objects, codes, cards, ports, links and so on.

In contrast, NNM relates to defining a command line interface method, not a graphical user interface. NNM allows the user to list one known object type (workstation), not lists for highlighted objects that can consist of any object type in the network, including listing many different types of objects at the same time based on whether the objects are highlighted.

Further, NNM does not disclose, teach or suggest selecting an object in a products list and receiving a contextual menu, properties or ability to navigate to the selected object. The subject matter disclosed in NNM does not show hierarchical relationships between objects in a list. Rather, NNM discloses a products list that is not a navigation tool.

Accordingly, the subject matter recited in the rejected claims enables an ability to act as a navigation tool and reduce a number of steps to access different types of related objects buried in many different layers of hierarchy. NNM does not disclose, teach or suggest subject matter able to achieve the same benefit as the subject matter recited in the rejected claims.

Further regarding claims 9 and 12, the claims recite, "wherein said GUI selects said specified order by sorting...by any of said columns." The fact that NNM discloses a list sorting accord to one criteria does not disclose, teach or suggest sorting by any of a plurality of criteria as recited in claims 9 and 12.
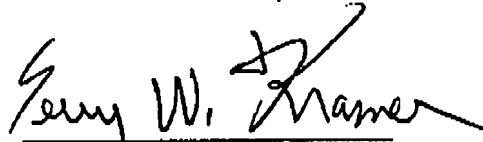
For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 16-19 as allegedly being anticipated by NNM be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
KRAMER & AMADO, P.C.

Date: ____July 11, 2007____

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APPENDIX A

For displaying information on all highlighted objects in a hierarchical chain of objects, a graphical user interface (GUI), identifies an original highlighted object displayed on a window at a selected ~~hierarchically~~ hierarchical level. The highlighted object(s) subtended by the original object at the hierarchically next lower level is/are identified and selected from an object storage means, etc, until all highlighted objects corresponding to the original object are identified and selected. The selected objects are placed in a list, and ~~the GIU~~ the GUI displays the list in a highlighted objects window where the objects are arranged in a specified order. The list comprises a row for each highlighted object, and a plurality of columns, each column for providing a specified attribute of the object. The GUI may then ~~selects~~ select an order of the objects in the window by sorting the list by any of the columns.

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